

**SPECIFICATION:**

Add the following paragraph to the Detailed Description – Preferred Embodiment section before the first paragraph on page 5 that begins with “At the ½ in. dia. ---- “:

The dimensions used in the above example result in a conical section that has a long, continuous small-angle taper of approximately 3.0 degrees.

Add before the first paragraph on page 6 that begins with “The conductive metallic ---“:

The term soil is used generically, and can include compactable construction material, and other compactable foundation and road bed materials.

Add after the last paragraph of the section Conclusion, Ramifications, and Scope on page 6, the following paragraph:

The taper angle of the electrode conical section may be larger or smaller than 3.0 degrees so as to optimize intimate contact with the soil in special applications.